

WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

3300 West Campus Road
West Columbia, SC 29170-2195

GRADES	GED
ENROLLMENT	335 students
SCHOOL LEAD INSTRUCTOR	Mr. Joseph W. Davis, Jr. 803-896-6479
AGENCY DIRECTOR	Mr. Pat Smith
BOARD CHAIR	Mr. Russell Hart

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

GOOD

The school's performance substantially exceeded the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

The school's improvement rating was below average because the achievement index did not increase from last year.

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

This is not applicable for Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Average	N/A	N/A
2002	Good	Good	N/A
2003	Good	Below Average	N/A
2004			

CRITERIA	DATA
GED Completion Rate	68%
Challenge Phase Completion	76%
Challenge Phase Dismissal	24%
Community Service Hours	66
Average Growth in Reading for those ineligible to participate in GED Testing	20 Months
Average Growth in Math for those ineligible to participate in GED Testing	20 Months

SCHOOL PROFILE

		Our School	Change from Last Year
Students (n=335)			
Average daily attendance	(Cycle 00 1)	156	Up 47
	(Cycle 00 2)	138	Up 29
With disabilities other than speech		13%	Down 3
Older than usual for grade		0	Same
Suspended or expelled		6%	Same
Annual dropout rate		24%	Up 1
Percentage Meeting Presidential Physical Fitness Standards		100%	Same
Percentage Completing Computer Literacy		100%	Same
Percentage Dismissed following Pre-Challenge Phase		24%	Up 1
Percentage Participating in Work Based Activities		21%	Up 4
Teachers (n=16)			
Teachers with advanced degrees		100%	Same
Continuing contract teachers		100%	Same
Highly qualified teachers		N/A	N/C
Teachers returning from the previous year		100%	Same
Teacher attendance rate		186.2	Up 1.4
Average teacher salary		\$46,013	Up by \$1,620
Professional development days		10	Same
School			
Lead Instructor's years at school		6	Up 1
Student-teacher ratio	(Cycle 00 1)	22	Up 6
	(Cycle 00 2)	20	Up 4
Prime instructional time	(Cycle 00 1)	97.0%	Down .5
	(Cycle 00 2)	99.0%	Up 2
Dollars spent per pupil		\$19,669	Down by \$7,264
Percent spent on teacher salaries		40.6%	Up 3.7
Opportunities in the arts		32%	Up 7
Parent s attending conferences		100%	Same
SACS accreditation		No	N/C

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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For more than eighty (80) years the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School has served the people of South Carolina. From its founding in 1921 by the late Dr. Wil Lou Gray, to the present day, the agency has educated and provided vocational and life skills training to thousands of citizens of our State. Throughout that time the agency has adapted its mission to meet the critical needs of the day.

The Opportunity School continues to offer traditional academic and vocational training, social and life skills improvement, and employability enhancement. The Youth Challenge Academy offers participants a structured lifestyle with an emphasis on becoming self-reliant through a disciplined, military-style environment. The Challenge Academy is premised upon leadership, teamwork and self-discipline as taught and modeled within a quasi-military framework. While the delivery method of the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School has been reshaped, our theme of motivating the "at-risk" student into a productive, employable young adult remains unchanged.

There are more than twenty similar Challenge programs operating throughout the nation. The performance of our cadets on the TABE has been exemplary, which is reflected in our average growth rate.

As we prepare our cadets to return to their communities as productive citizens, they are exposed to many types of career choices. Some of these career choices allow them to get experience as teachers' aid; carpet layers; foodservice workers; and auto mechanics. An eight week program sponsored by Hanson Brick results in the cadets becoming a qualified bricklayer.

We also participated in Habitat for Humanity, Harvest Hope Food Bank, Congaree River Clean-up, and many other activities that have made a positive impact on the community.

Nine of our cadets took the Scholastic Aptitude Test and achieved an average score of 943 points, with three scoring over 1,000 points.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	10	17	8
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.0%	82.4%	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	90.0%	82.4%	N/A
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	N/A	64.7%	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.